

# Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

## Substance Abuse Services for the Criminal Justice Population FY2004 Fact Sheet

Drugs and alcohol are major contributors to Utah's crime rate. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that illicit drug users are "16 times more likely than non-users to be arrested and booked for larceny or theft; more than 14 times more likely to be arrested and booked for driving under the influence, drunkenness, or liquor law violations, and more than 9 times more likely to be arrested and booked on an assault charge."<sup>1</sup> In addition, a study conducted by the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) in 2001 found that 69.9% of inmates in Utah's prison system are in need of drug or alcohol treatment. The survey asked about lifetime use of specific illegal drugs. The results indicate 79.6% had used marijuana, 57.4% had used methamphetamine, 52.5% had used cocaine, and 16.7% had used heroin. Very few of these offenders receive adequate treatment prior to release on parole.

In light of this connection, DSAMH has developed a number of programs designed to: preserve jail and prison cells for serious and violent offenders; enhance public safety by reducing drug related crime; and improve public health by reducing drug abuse through proven and effective treatment strategies. This fact sheet summarizes the major accomplishments of these programs in 2004.

### Utah Drug Courts

Funds from the Tobacco Settlement Account are used to fund:

- 9 Adult Felony Drug Courts
- 4 Family/Dependency Drug Courts
- 3 Juvenile Drug Courts
- 1 Dual-Model Drug Court

These funds are used to provide case management, treatment and drug testing. Highlights from the data collected by DSAMH is listed below:

- Since 2001, the number of participants involved in a felony drug court has increased by 47% (567 to 837).
- Close to 5,000 Utahns have participated, or are currently participating in a Felony Drug Court.
- Sixty-seven percent of participants graduate.
- Participants are involved an average of 464 days (Graduates= 499, Unsuccessful participants = 403).
- The vast majority (72%) of participants are treated at the outpatient level of care.
- Employment rates rise 14% between admission and discharge.
- Eighty-nine percent of all participants report decreased drug use.
- At least five independent evaluations have shown Drug Courts significantly reduce substance abuse and recidivism.
- The cost is 45% less for an offender to participate in Drug Court for one year than to place an offender in jail for 90 days.

### Utah's Drug Board

Drug Board is a collaborative effort of the Board of Pardons and Parole, Utah Department of Corrections, Weber Human Services, and Davis Behavioral Health. The program combines intensive supervision with substance abuse treatment monitored by the Board of Pardons and Parole. The Drug Board accepts parolees from the State prison system who are in need of substance abuse treatment and parolees in jeopardy of returning to prison due to use of illicit substances.

## **Drug Board Outcomes**

- 88% of participants report abstinence from alcohol.
- 95% of drug tests are negative for illicit drugs.
- Close to 200 parolees have participated since the program's inception.
- 46 participants have completed successfully.
- 67% of participants obtain full-time employment.
- Participants are involved an average of 255 days (Graduates= 525, Unsuccessful participants = 165).

## **Collaborative Interventions for Addicted Offenders (CIAO)**

Collaborative Interventions for Addicted Offenders or "CIAO" strives to create a seamless transition from

the prison to community treatment services. The program also creates a coordinated supervision and treatment plan. CIAO is the result of a partnership between the DSAMH and the Utah Department of Corrections. Data collected by DSAMH Illustrates the positive impact CIAO is having on our community.

Highlights are listed below:

- Since the program's inception, about 58% of CIAO clients have completed successfully.
- Almost 1500 offenders have received services through CIAO in the past four years.
- Employment rates increase 13% from intake to discharge. Treatment episode data (TEDS) data shows significant reductions in arrests and drug use among participants.

## **(Footnotes)**

<sup>1</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2002). Results from the 2001 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse: Volume I. Summary of national findings (DHHS Publication No. SMA 02-3758, NHSDA Series: H-17). Rockville, MD: Author.

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